S702
Transforming Access and Promotion through the Digital Public Library of America
Discover 33,392,764 images, texts, videos, and sounds from across the United States.

That's an increase of 2,939,446 records since 12/17/2018.
Discovering Michigan: Creating A Statewide Digital Portal

Erik Nordberg, Interim Assistant Dean

(soon to be Dean of Libraries at Indiana University of Pennsylvania)
Situational Problems

- Michigan has no statewide digital repository.
- Individual institutions have limited staff capacity, particularly for digital projects.
- Most individual institution’s are not yet working with DPLA.
- Primary source materials lack discovery and access points.
- Detroit’s historic ethnic, racial, and gender identity groups have diminished digital profile locally, regionally, nationally.
Solution: Discovering Michigan History

A two-year project, funded by the Library of Michigan through its Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant program. Total award: $167,000

Catalyst Collections
- Three Catalyst Collections
- Focused on Detroit Underrepresented Communities

Statewide Digital Portal
- Michigan Memories Digital Content
- Include Michigan DPLA Metadata

Educational Tools
- Pilot new pathways for educational use
- Primary Source Sets
- Teachers
- K-12
- Adults
Phase I: Conversion, Description and Ingest of Catalyst Collections

Sample Collection #1: **Housewives League of Detroit, 1930-1971**
(8.1 linear feet)

- **Institution:** Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library
- **Digital Platform:** Islandora
- **Scope and Content:** Membership organization encouraging support of African American businesses. Includes membership lists, meeting minutes, and printed materials.

Sample Collection #2: **LGBT Detroit Records, 1993-2016**
(1.5 linear feet)

- **Institution:** Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University (gift of LGBT Detroit)
- **Digital Platform:** Fedora Commons
- **Scope and Content:** Records of several organizations supporting Detroit’s African American LGBT community. Includes membership lists, meeting minutes, and printed materials.

Sample Collection #3: **Arab Americans and Automobile: Voices from the Factory, 1999-2000**
(0.5 linear Feet)

- **Institution:** Arab American National Museum Archives
- **Digital Platform:** Digital Commons
- **Scope and Content:** Materials produced during an oral history project engaging Arab American automobile factory workers includes audio recordings, transcripts, and a draft book manuscript describing the project.
Phase II: Creation of Statewide Digital Portal

Welcome to Michigan Memories!

Browse

https://michmemories.org/
Current infrastructure (enables aggregation but not preservation)
Michigan Memories State Portal

- For both metadata and digital objects
- Hosting for smaller institutions throughout the state
- Will benefit from and draw on current development at U-M's Library IT
- Digital preservation and findability

Future infrastructure
Phase III: Development and Testing of Educational Tools

- For each collection:
  - Primary Source Set, Teacher Educational Module, K-12 Curriculum Module, Adult Educational Tools

- Incentives for Pilot Implementation of Tools

- Educational Partners:
  - James Cameron, Michigan Department of Education
  - Stan Masters, Lenawee Intermediate School District
  - Carol Bacak-Egbo, Oakland University School of Education
DPLA Wisconsin Service Hub: Building Capacity to Engage Digital Projects

AMY COOPER CARY
HEAD OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES, MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY
RECOLLECTION WISCONSIN DPLA STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER
CCDC PROFESSIONAL MENTOR
Recollection Wisconsin
DPLA Service Hub
One of the largest service hubs in the country
Initial ingest: 375,000 records from 184 digital collections
Current contributions: 509,749 records to DPLA from 209 repositories
Governing Partners

Provide Project management, fiscal support and funding administration, metadata harvesting, content hosting, digitization consulting, governance, and outreach for the project.
Building Capacity

- Digitization Consulting Service
  - Consultation instead of training
- Curating Community Digital Collections (CCDC)
RESOURCES

- DPLA: https://dp.la/
- Recollection Wisconsin: https://recollectionwisconsin.org/
- Recollection Wisconsin Consulting: https://recollectionwisconsin.org/guidelines/consulting
- Curating Community Digital Collections: https://recollectionwisconsin.org/digipres
- Digital Projects Toolkit: https://recollectionwisconsin.org/toolkit
- CCDC 2018 Resources: https://recollectionwisconsin.org/digipres/2018resources

Questions?
CONTACT: amy.cary@marquette.edu
Transforming Access and Promotion through the Digital Public Library of America

Molly Huber
Outreach Coordinator, Minnesota Digital Library
April 6th, 2019
The Minnesota Digital Library (MDL)
The Minnesota Digital Library (MDL)

History
• Founded as consortium in 2004
• Minnesota Reflections
• Grant-funded

Now
• Administratively housed at the University of Minnesota
• Many projects
• Primarily Legacy-funded
Minnesota Reflections

Images only at first, now many types of objects
190 organizational contributors
More than 52,000 unique items
Just under 275,000 digitized individual objects
Initial service hub for DPLA
Minnesota Reflections

Browse by Topic

Browse by Contributor

Browse by Format

Search...

Search

Browse all 52,678 items from 189 historical societies, libraries, archives, and cultural organizations across Minnesota.
So how does an organization contribute?
Current Process-Minnesota Reflections

Meet with Outreach Coordinator
Application
Selection Committee
Digitization
Metadata
Publication

Contribute to Minnesota Reflections

More than 177 organizations from across the state of Minnesota have joined in the creation of Minnesota Reflections. Organizations review their collections of historical photographs, negatives, artwork, handwritten documents, maps, and other materials to see which is of the most value to them, their public, and people across the state and beyond. They also determine if they have time and personnel, either staff or volunteers, to complete a digitization project.

How Contributing Works

If the answer is yes, organizations shape a project selected from their available materials and submit a proposal to have their projects included in Minnesota Reflections. The Minnesota Digital Library pays for the cost of having professionals scan the original objects according to well-established and very high standards. Copies of these digital master files are given to the contributing organizations.

Once a project is scanned, the organization completes a spreadsheet to describe the items digitized so that they are findable online. The time it takes to compile and complete this information is the organizations in-kind contribution to Minnesota Reflections. Once this metadata is finished, the project is added to the Minnesota Reflections database and is available through the website.

Thank You!

We are grateful to all of the contributors to Minnesota Reflections, past, present, and future. By working with the Minnesota Digital Library and sharing their unique cultural resources with Minnesota Reflections, and through that collection with the larger world, these organizations are helping to tell the rich history of our state in an accessible way.
Geographic Distribution
Types of Organizations

Contributing Organization Types

- Historical Societies: 44%
- Archives: 29%
- Libraries: 19%
- Museums: 8%
A Contributor’s Story

The following post reflects Patricia Maus’s experience as the representative of a contributing institution to the Minnesota Digital Library, a DPLA service hub.

In 2004, I immediately accepted the Minnesota Digital Library (MDL) first-round invitation to digitize 750 photographs held in the collections at University of Minnesota Duluth, Kathryn A. Martin Library. No arm twisting was required. Photographs are always needed by researchers, and providing access to and copies of photographs always swallows up an archivist’s time. My time investment up-front would result in digitally accessible resources, eliminating researchers’ travel and replacing their collection guesswork with precision. Researchers view digital items and readily determine if they are germane to their work. This was an initial step away from full service to self-service.

Leap forward to MDL holdings scooped into DPLA in 2013. For me, nearly 3,500 items and multi-paged documents (including original architectural drawings of the 1904 aereal bridge—the first of two such bridges on the planet) were immediately self-serve and more widely accessible to a greater audience.

In 2011, the University of Minnesota Duluth adjusted its campus goals to a focus on quality undergraduate education, which resulted in me “burning” two bridges that did not lead to academic research. First, since the DPLA’s launch, I have deliberately redirected genealogists and casual archives users to two resources. I say something like “You are so fortunate!” or “I am so pleased to offer a remarkable new resource...” and redirect local people first to our excellent local public libraries. Second, I redirect locals and everyone else to the DPLA. People express their enthusiasm! I am thrilled! People who simply want to browse photographs (for fun) can do so for hours (or days!) without me having to transport a single box to the archives reading room and allow me to focus my energies on the UMD campus goal.

Let me set the quaint scene for you. The city of Duluth—a gem in beauty and quality—is located at the western-most tip of Lake Superior, a reasonable distance from nearly all traffic routes. People must deliberately go out of their way to come to Duluth. This distance is a hindrance that has been practically eliminated with the DPLA. People’s expectations of electronic access to resources every minute of every day—at the person’s convenience—is the DPLA advantage in a nutshell (does anyone say that anymore?). The DPLA extends my archives’ reach to a world-wide swath of educators, students, and the public who cannot or will not travel to Duluth. The DPLA is energy efficient!
Another Path to DPLA

Provides path for sharing with DPLA outside of Minnesota Reflections as well, for larger organizations with significant collections.

- University of Minnesota Libraries
- Minnesota Historical Society
- Minnesota Public Radio
- College of St. Benedict’s/St. John’s University
- Hennepin County Library
- Carleton College
- Northfield History Collaborative
- Minneapolis Institute of Art
- Cooperating Libraries in Consortium (CLIC)
- Digital Library of South Dakota
# The Minnesota Digital Library (MDL)

## Browse by Partner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Archives and Records Administration</td>
<td>12,974,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hathitrust</td>
<td>2,836,982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Digital Library</td>
<td>1,249,392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Southern California Libraries</td>
<td>1,207,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Commonwealth</td>
<td>691,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota Digital Library</td>
<td>621,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recollection Wisconsin</td>
<td>509,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Digital Heritage Center</td>
<td>418,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana Memory</td>
<td>330,707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Service Hub</td>
<td>270,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunshine State Digital Network</td>
<td>204,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Government Publishing Office (GPO)</td>
<td>188,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri Hub</td>
<td>169,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithsonian Institution</td>
<td>3,288,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The New York Public Library</td>
<td>2,048,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Portal to Texas History</td>
<td>1,238,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain West Digital Library</td>
<td>1,088,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Library of Georgia</td>
<td>640,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Archive</td>
<td>554,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empire State Digital Network</td>
<td>443,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA Digital</td>
<td>390,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois Digital Heritage Hub</td>
<td>310,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity Heritage Library</td>
<td>227,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina Digital Library</td>
<td>200,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plants to Peaks Collective</td>
<td>181,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Washington</td>
<td>141,673</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Minnesota’s Immigrants

Minnesota’s Immigrants is a collaborative project that finds the Minnesota Digital Library (MDL) and the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) collaborating with cultural organizations throughout the state to capture and expose the myriad stories of the citizens who make up this great state and call Minnesota home.

Minnesota has a long tradition of immigration to the state. The Ojibwe and Dakota people, the largest American Indian tribes living in Minnesota in the early and mid-19th century, were joined by an influx of European émigrés settling in Minnesota in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Immigration continues today, more recently with the Hmong, Somali, Korean, and Latino entrants to the state. In sharing these immigrant stories, told through their own voices, the MDL and the DPLA seek to share with the world a broader view of what it means to be Minnesotan.

This initiative has gathered and digitized oral histories from organizations across the state. These existing materials have been coupled with newly created stories that best document the rich tradition of immigration to this state. This project weaves together these audio and video histories into a single space where these stories can be gathered, saved, and shared in an openly and freely accessible manner.
Minnesota’s Immigrants (immigrants.mndigital.org)
Minnesota Reflections Primary Source Sets

Primary Source Sets

Minnesota Reflections Primary Source Sets are modeled from the Digital Public Library for America Primary Source Sets and designed to help students develop critical thinking skills by exploring a variety of topics related to Minnesota history and culture. Using both primary and secondary sources, these sets bring together different resources in new ways to help students better understand historic events and people in their context.

Drawing on materials from libraries, archives, and museums across Minnesota, these sets use letters, photographs, advertisements, oral histories, postcards, newsletters, papers, speeches, and more. Each set includes a topic overview, ten to twenty primary sources, links to related resources, and a teaching guide which includes classroom discussion questions and activities. We invite educators and researchers to use these primary source sets in their teaching and learning.

- **Civilian Conservation Corps in Minnesota**
  - The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was a work relief program started in 1933. Minnesota's 148 camps had over 70,000 workers.

- **Discrimination in Advertising Trade Cards**
  - Discover advertising trade cards from the late 19th and early 20th century used by businesses throughout America.

- **Format Highlights: Cabinet Cards**
  - Learn about the history of cabinet photographs.

- **Format Highlights: Postcards**
  - This primary source set provides a brief overview of the history of postcards.

- **Laura Ingalls Wilder's On the Banks of Plum Creek**
  - Explore some of the themes and ideas laid out in Laura Ingalls Wilder's autobiographical novel.

- **Made in Minnesota: Patent Medicine on the Prairie**
  - This primary source set provides a brief overview of patent medicine with some Minnesota-related resources.
What is a Primary Source Set?

Primary source sets are curated collections of primary source materials.

They provide a topic overview, links to primary source materials, and links to additional resources.

Primary Source Sets are designed to help students understand primary sources and use them with confidence, as well as develop critical thinking skills.

Primary Sources Sets are designed to help teachers use primary sources in the classroom and in their teaching.

Image courtesy of St. Cloud State University.
What makes up a Primary Source Set?

**Topic overview**
Single block of text

**Selection of items from Minnesota Reflections**

**ELM (Electronic Library for Minnesota)**
Selection of articles and online resources for students and teachers to learn more about topic

**Additional Resources for Research**
Online and print resources

**Teaching Guide:**
- Primary Source Analysis (same for every Primary Source Set)
- Discussion Questions – open ended questions to add classroom discussion and collaboration
- Classroom Activities

Image courtesy of University of Minnesota Duluth, NEMHC Collections.
Current Titles

- Civilian Conservation Corps in Minnesota
- Discrimination in Advertising Trade Cards
- Excelsior Amusement Park
- Format Highlights: Cabinet Cards
- Format Highlights: Postcards
- Laura Ingalls Wilder’s *On the Banks of Plum Creek*
- Made in MN: Patent Medicine on the Prairie
- Mechanization of Farming in Minnesota
- Mining on the Iron Range
- Minneapolis Teamsters Strike of 1934
- Morgan Park: U.S. Steel’s Company Town in Duluth
- Motion Picture Theaters in Minnesota

- Motion Picture Theaters in Minnesota
- Natural Disasters in Minnesota
- Seth Eastman: Depictions of Native American Life
- Sinclair Lewis’s *Main Street*
- St. Anthony Falls
- Temperance to Prohibition
- Traveling Library Services in Minnesota
- Whaleback Boats on the Great Lakes
- World War I on the Minnesota Home Front
Benefits of Participation

What has partnering with DPLA brought to the Minnesota Digital Library and our contributors?

• Larger reach
• Broader context
• Grant opportunities
• New partnerships

Image courtesy of the Hennepin County Public Library
Transforming Access and Promotion through the Digital Public Library of America

Questions?

**Richard C. Adler**, Coordinator
Michigan DPLA Service Hub
University of Michigan Library
Hatcher North 301
913 South University Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1190
734-645-0070
rcadler@umich.edu

**Molly Huber**, Outreach Coordinator
Minnesota Digital Library / Minitex
University of Minnesota
Wilson Library, Room 60
309 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
612-301-1329
mollyh@umn.edu

**Amy Cooper Cary**, Head
Special Collections & University Archives
Raynor Memorial Libraries
Marquette University
P. O. Box 3141
Milwaukee, WI 53201-3141
414-288-5901
amy.cary@marquette.edu

**Erik Nordberg**, Dean of Libraries
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
203 Stapleton Library
431 South Eleventh Street
Indiana, PA 15705
724-357-2330